

# MONTEREY NEWS



AUGUST 1997  
VOLUME XXVII · Number 8

## MONTEREY AT 150: JUST THIS SIDE OF OZ

### THE TOWN

#### Unbelievable.

But true. Disaster can hit the same place twice. On July 3 at 6:15 p.m., just two years and one holiday weekend later, another tornado hit Monterey. In terms of range, this storm was nothing in comparison to the Memorial Day 1995 storm, but for those in its path, it was no small disaster.

This tornado seemed to pick up where the 1995 tornado left off. It touched down in the Kinne Grove area with damage as far down Rte. 23 as Bidwell Road. It crossed the lake, making trouble off Elephant Rock Rd. on

Woodland Rd., and then proceeded to some vacant land off Mt. Hunger Rd. (more on the tornado pp. 3-6).

Emergency Management Director Ray Tryon reported to the Select Board the following Monday that because of early alerts, he and his crew were all set to go, knew every area of damage within five minutes, and were quickly on the scene of damage on Rte. 23 after touch-down. The Monterey News was also there to see the devastation caused by the trunk of a tree which had fallen on a cottage at Kinne's Grove where Pat Buysse, her husband, and Sara Pedersen, all traveling from Pennsylvania, were staying. The tree trunk smashed the roof, falling into both bedrooms of the cottage. Another tree crushed the hood of Sara's car, which she had borrowed from her father to visit

Monterey. Fallen trees and wires along that section of Rte. 23 were a sight reminiscent of 1995.

Sandy and Bill Baum, in Vermont at



*John Eidmann captured this photo from his home on "the point" on the west shore of Lake Garfield. Story and more photos within.*

the time of the storm, came to the Select Board July 7 for advice about how to seek help for the damage done to their home on Woodland Rd. They said the storm had rendered the house uninhabitable. Peter Brown advised them to see Ray Tryon who has become, according to Peter Brown, a "walking encyclopedia of what to do in case of tornado."

Ray Tryon suggested that the Town should be thinking about where we can get emergency auxiliary help. He emphasized the need for emergency clerical help to cover the phones so that crews can be at the scenes of trouble. He advises a meeting in Monterey of the fire, police, highway departments, and interested citizens to determine who and what should be involved. The Board expressed gratitude to Tryon for being so prepared

for this disaster. He replied, "Get us more help and don't worry about commendations or thank-yous."

**Paying the Piper.** The Special Town

Meeting held June 13 voted to transfer from the free cash fund to the 150th Anniversary Fund money necessary to pay the bills. The last Town Meeting approved \$30,000 for the Anniversary, but expenses seem to be running over. Though there was some grumbling about the extravagance, the Article passed. Income from the Anniversary will very likely make up much of the expense.

Article 2 passed to set

up a 150th Revolving Fund FY '97, which will expedite paying the bills.

**Cellular.** Another Special Town Meeting will likely be held to deal with a six month moratorium on the construction of Wireless Communications Facilities (cellular towers) in the Town.

**Town Officer Appointments Unanimous.** The Board voted the following appointments for the period July 1, 1997 to June 30, 1998 unless otherwise indicated:

Election Inspector.....Joel Schick  
Election Officers.....Grace Burke (D), Virginia Funk (D), Barbara Tryon (R), Jane Thorn (R)

Election Officers, Asst.....

Ruth Champigny (D)

Registrars of Voters.....Barbara Swann, Ch (D) 2000, Vivian Bynack (D), 2000 (three year terms)

Registrars of Voters, Assistant..Dean Amidon (R), Patricia Amstead (D), Shelley Bynack (D), Maynard Forbes (D)  
**Miscellany.**

If a new school budget is approved, Monterey will likely have some money coming back which the Town could vote to a specific area. Any other items to be addressed at this time are purely speculative (Monterey News, The Town, June '97).

Anne Marie Makuc met with the Board June 23 to discuss bids for work on the new Library addition which the Town approved at the 1996 Town Meeting.

River Road will open, but probably not before Labor Day. The gabions are complete.

On June 30 an employment contract with Police Chief Backhaus was signed by all parties.

On the same evening Highway Department bids for heavy equipment and operators were opened. The Board will review bids with Superintendent Don Amstead.

Town Offices will be closed Monday, September 1 in observance of Labor Day.

**Agreement on Signs Reached.** Maybe. The Planning Board met July 10 and decided to have a joint meeting between themselves, the business interests concerned, and the Select Board to determine how to resolve the disagreement about directional signs in Monterey. The upshot of this meeting held July 14 is that there will be a slatted sign put up close to the intersection of Rtes. 23 and 57 contingent on permission of Lennie Weber, on whose property will be placed. This sign will represent those who were on the previous sign, destroyed by the tornado.

The Planning Board will begin work on a By-Law which will permanently settle the questions of where, what, and by whom directional signs will be appropriate. The sign agreed to at the July 14 Select Board may then be only temporary, depending on what the Town agrees to. But for the meantime, all involved in

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the disagreement went home mollified.

Neuma Agins, Buggy Whip Factory owner, and Henry Reeves, antique store owner said that those who will be on the sign will see to having an attractive sign made and paid for. The Planning Board, clearly in favor of the sign, were able to satisfy a petition signed by 13 local businesses. Over half of the signers represented Monterey establishments. Constraints expressed by Select Board Chair Peter Brown were satisfied with the knowledge that a By-Law will be written which the Town can approve or disapprove.

**Monterey Joins Grant Program.** On July 14, the Select Board again met with Peter Lafayette from Berkshire Housing and Community Development Corporation and representatives from Otis and Sandisfield for a public hearing about a Small Cities Program which makes grant money available for services. This grant is administered through The Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant Program, which channels federal funds.

The Select Board voted to go for the grant, which must be applied for by August 1, and if received, will be directed in Monterey to ward housing rehabilitation, social services, and American Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

Housing rehabilitation monies at zero interest would be directed to local people who cannot afford home repairs or ownership, providing they remain in their home for seven years, after which the loans would be forgiven. These funds are intended to help local people remain in the area despite increasing property evaluations.

For social services, primarily focused on the elderly, 51% of the population in the age range must be of lower income, and though Monterey alone does not qualify for such assistance, joined with the other towns, Monterey's needy elders would qualify. Help for them would be in health insurance primarily, but could extend to house cleaning for those seriously impaired.

ADA money can be used for Town Hall improvements that would make the building in compliance with the law.

This is the only area that could shave some costs from the Town budget. Other services would be those which Monterey does not currently provide.

**Second Homeowners Meeting.** About 10 people attended the Saturday, July 19 meeting, with no major issues raised. Questions were asked about the disposition of the Edith Wilson House. Police Chief Gareth Backhaus talked about the environmental police predicting more close encounters with bears (see pp. 7 and 15). Chief Backhaus recommends calling the police line - 528-3211 for all problems with animals, and your call will be directed to the proper authority. The only exception is if a bear has gotten into your house, porch or garage. Then don't hesitate to call 911.

Jane Black

## BIRTHDAY BASH

Monterey celebrates her 150th birthday this year in high style, August 1-3, with parties, tours, sporting events, and historic and art displays in and around the town center. (For complete details see Calendar, p. 23.)

A community picnic (bring your own or sample Gould Farm/Roadside offerings of burgers, chili and BBQ) Friday, August 1 at 5:30 p.m. kicks off the weekend at the pavilion behind the firehouse. At 8 p.m. Monterey's own Mountain Laurel Band features a contra dance.

On Saturday, August 2, meet at the town center at 9 a.m. to participate in the Knox Trail road race. Art displays open at the Tryon Tea Room and historic exhibits at the Knox Room in the library.

Saturday evening's Anniversary Ball is sold out, but a DJ will provide music at the pavilion at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday's offering include a pancake breakfast, boating around Lake Garfield, and a huge birthday cake. For more events and details, see Calendar, p. 23.

## MONTEREY LIBRARY

Monday .....	7-9 p.m.
Tuesday .....	9:30 a.m.-noon
Wednesday .....	3-5 p.m.
Saturday .....	9:30 a.m.-noon
.....	7-9 p.m.

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# "IT REALLY WAS NO MIRACLE - WHAT HAPPENED WAS JUST THIS..."

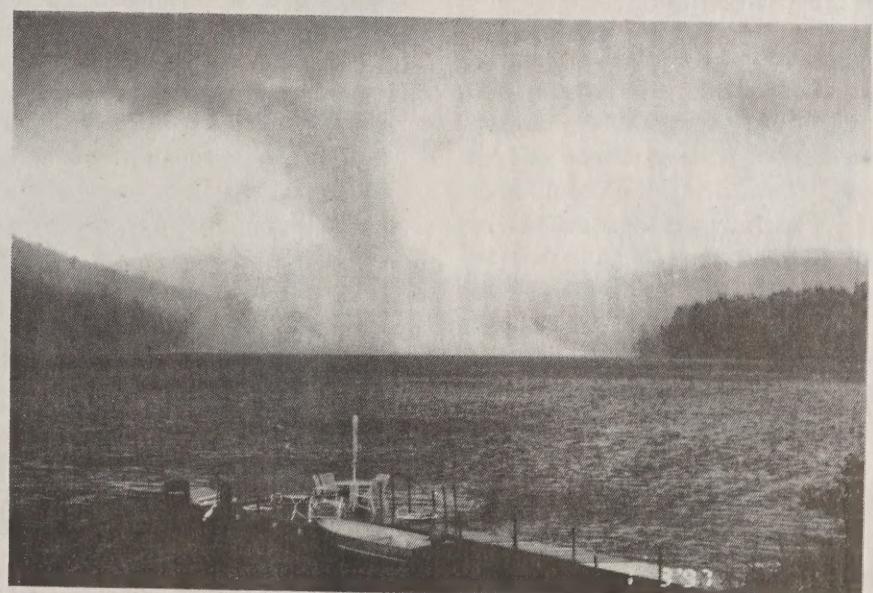
Thursday, July 5 was one of those muggy, hot days that was truly oppressive. The sun struggled to appear all day and only at intervals came out from behind the clouds for a few minutes here and there, as scattered showers fell all day. In the afternoon I mowed a lawn and discovered that my tee-shirt was soaked with sweat. Dew points were very high. It felt much like the afternoon before the Memorial Day Tornado of 1995, except that then the sun was out more steadily, allowing temperatures to rise higher.

On both days, clouds moved from the southwest to the northeast. Conditions, especially with a front approaching from the west, were ripe for some kind of violent weather.

Rain, hail, thunder and lightning began in earnest around 5 p.m. on Thursday, July 3. The Monterey Tornado touched down somewhere between Sandisfield Road and Route 23 around 6:06 p.m. and began its run across Route 23 a mile or so east of the village, crossing Lake Garfield and damaging homes there by the shore, crossing Hupi Rd., crossing Mt. Hunger Rd. by the cemetery - felling trees and limbs on the gravestones, hitting the Hayes Pond area in Otis and finally crossing Route 8 and dying out at the west end of Merritt Rd. in Otis.

The Memorial Day Tornado was classified as an F-4 with winds between 207 and 260 miles an hour. The July 3 tornado is classified as an F-2, with winds between 113 and 157 m.p.h. The recent tornado moved from the southwest to the northeast, traveling for about seven miles in touch with the ground; the Memorial Day tornado continued approximately three times that distance on more of a direct west-east path.

The paths of the two tornadoes may be said to have crossed if one takes into account the tree limbs snapped at the junction of Wellman and New Marlboro Roads in Monterey, caused by winds that July 3, likely from the tornado before it completely touched down.



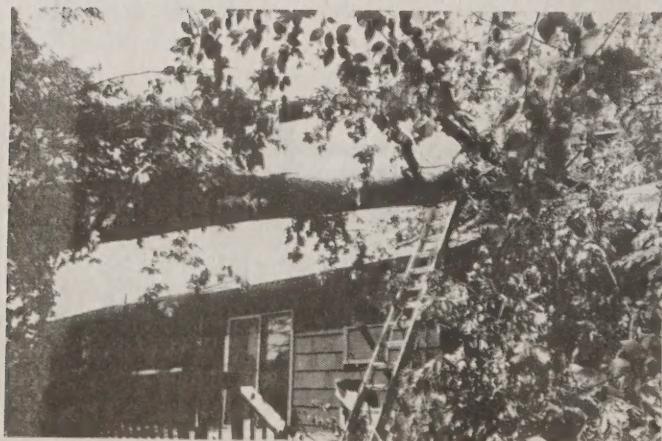
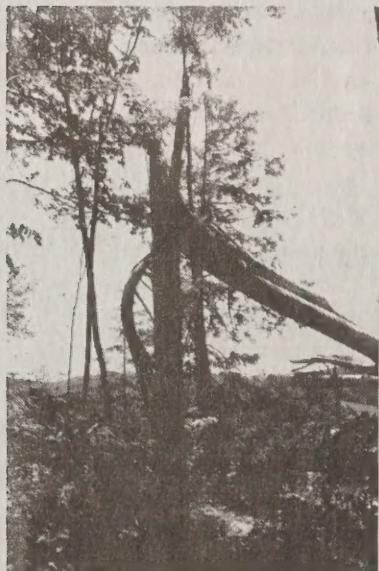
*The July 3, 1997 tornado, as it formed, split and moved East across Lake Garfield.  
Photos by John Eichmann.*

The worst forest devastation can be seen from atop Mt. Hunger looking west, for after crossing Hupi Rd., in a comparatively narrow swath, the tornado appeared to widen and consequently leveled acres of forest at the base of this prominence, apparently being deflected by the mountainside and making a U-turn, carving out a horseshoe shaped path of destruction below. All along the path, not just pines, but even oaks were snapped off or pushed over, testifying to the passing whirlwinds.

These scars on our landscape will remain for years, gradually healing over as new growth advances and, of course, our "mental landscape" will take time to heal, especially for those whose homes and lives lay in the tornado path....

Robert Rausch

## "THE WINDS BEGAN TO SWITCH... THE HOUSE TO PITCH..."



## THE RIGHT TIME, PLACE AND THE "RIGHT STUFF"

The whole of John Eidmann's 28 foot glass living room wall overlooks Lake Garfield. John was watching TV when the sky went dark. He had heard the tornado warnings, and got up, grabbed one of his (loaded) Olympus point-and-shoot cameras and started shooting, catching the stunning photos of the tornado shown on pages 1 and 3.

"All I remember was that everything was turning black," he said. "I couldn't see anything, but I just kept shooting. I took the whole roll in two minutes. I never knew what I had until the pictures came back."

"I'm impressed - like somebody else took them - because I didn't see it. Period. The wind was at my back, so I wasn't worried. It was just luck. Being at the right place at the right time."

Well... maybe. Upon further questioning John divulged his penchant for always having a compact camera handy, and having used this technique of shooting on instinct before. He travels by car around the country and has, at times, just put the camera up to the windshield, not knowing if he will get a good picture. "I've gotten a lot of good shots by just shooting."

These may be the most memorable. The National Weather Service has expressed interest in receiving a copy to assist them in their continuing investigations into tornadoes. John's daughter, Cindy Dely, has offered to make reprints for any who are interested for the cost of the processing (about \$5). Write to her at P.O. Box 89.

## DOPPLER RADAR

*The Berkshire Eagle* reports on July 9 that Doppler radar, which "peers into a cloud and can "see" the tornadic action that precedes an actual funnel cloud" was used by the Berkshire County Sheriff's Office Communications Center to alert communities of the tornado.

The system had just been installed on a trial basis three weeks before the tornado and in short order proved its use. The system also receives near-instant reception of National Weather Service severe weather alerts.

"As bulletins of confirmed tornadoes in Copake, N.Y., Monterey, Otis, New Lebanon, N.Y., and Richmond flashed across the screen, .... dispatchers notified the appropriate town police and fire departments."

## TORNADOES: A PRIMER

**What are they?** Tornadoes are vertically rotating columns of wind within severe thunderstorms that drop down out of the storm cloud randomly, causing destruction due to the speed of the wind. They are classified according to the speed per hour of the rotating wind: F0 = 40-70, F1 = 73-112, F2 = 113-157, F3 = 158-206, F4 = 207-260, F5 = 261-318. The Memorial Day '95 Tornado was classified as an F4. This July's tornado was an F2.

**How do they form?** Optimal conditions for tornado formation include a strong "supercell" storm, defined as a storm with a rotating updraft (like a column of air rotating on its axis). A wind shift in the low level wind field (the first 3-400 feet) from a southerly to a westerly direction as you go aloft into the storm creates a "shear". This wind shear causes the wind to roll horizontally - like a rolling pin. The force of the supercell's updraft tilts the horizontal roll to vertical circulation, causing a tornado. Not all supercells produce tornadoes.

**The Hudson River Valley Connection:** Both Monterey's of tornadoes originated in the Hudson River Valley. The North/South orientation of the Valley helps funnel moisture and warm air up from the south. When that heat and moisture hit a cold front, conditions for a supercell are ripe. The

valley forces the wind to channel right from due south to southwest - and that little turning helps to create the shear that forms the roll that eventually becomes a funnel cloud. As the storm moves west to east tornadoes have a chance to form.

**"Tornado Alley?"** Maureen Meier popularized this term in her 150th slogan "Just up tornado alley," but is there such a thing? There may be a more favorable environment for tornadoes visiting the Berkshires, says the National Weather Service, because of the Hudson River Valley Connection (see above) and the west to east movement that helps the tornado gain strength and momentum, but as for the Monterey destination, no explanation yet. Research is being done to see if the altitude of the terrain under a supercell somehow aids in tornado formation. Carl Cerniglia of the National Weather Service says, "Weatherwise you're not too far from the Hudson Valley, and you're downwind."

**On The Movie Twister:** "Hollywood. Storm-Chasers are lucky if they see one or two tornadoes in a year. The one that swept over them at F-5 would have shredded them limb from limb. But it was a good movie. I enjoyed it."

**Spell-check:** The plural may be either dos or does: you say tornados, and I say tornadoes....our former Vice President wouldn't have gotten this one wrong.

## WHAT TO DO IF IT (GASP) HAPPENS AGAIN

If you're not in the habit of keeping regularly tuned to radio or TV, Carl Cerniglia of the National Weather Service in Albany recommends picking up a weather radio cube at Radio Shack. These handy devices work like an alarm clock. Tuned to NOAA Weather Radio (162.52 mh), which issues warnings within a minute of being released by the National Weather Service, those that are equipped with an alarm feature will sound and the warning broadcast, even if they are "off."

In the event of a tornado warning, the best preparation is to take cover in the southwest corner of the basement, or in the smallest room in the center of the house, away from windows. Bathrooms are good because plumbing can buttress the walls. Stay away from the western side of the house.

In a mobile home, get into a wood-frame structure with a basement. Cars are NOT a good place to be, as Monterey residents are by now aware.

It doesn't matter if you keep windows open or shut - it's not a "pressure thing" like a hurricane. The force of the wind will take it right off if you're that close, and if you're not, you may as well leave it closed for the rain and hail that normally follows.

The National Weather Service in Albany is located in the Center for Environmental Science and Technology Management of S.U.N.Y. Albany, and offers tours for students and other interested individuals. Dick Westerguard can be reached at (518) 435-9580 for more information.

## QUILT COMMEMORATES MONTEREY 150TH

A group of eight latter-day Betsy Rosses have commemorated in stich and cotton the seal of Monterey in celebration of her 150th birthday.

The beautiful quilt, done in primary colors on a white background is a recreation of the town's seal, which was designed by the late Edith Wilson - artist, town benefactress and creator of the scholarship fund for Monterey's children. The quilt will be on display at the Tryon Tea Room in the center of town as part of Monterey's 150th Celebration of Arts and Crafts.

The quilting project was suggested by Carole Zarlin, an experienced quilter and second-home owner on Hupi Road. A group of four met in February to discuss themes and the Town Seal won everyone's approval.

The group expanded to eight people: Kathy Bracken, Jan Emmons, Pam Johnson, Mary-Kate Jordan, Shirley Olds, Barbara Tryon, Anita Carroll-Weldon and Carole Zarlin. There were quilters and non-quilters- all were very enthusiastic.

They met regularly on Monday mornings at the Town Hall through May under the tutelage of Carole. Although the group gathered outside one beautiful day, and worked in a circle (see photo, June MNews) , most of the quilting was done solo in individual homes due to the small size of the quilt. It was predominantly quilted on 12 and 16 inch frames, too small for a large frame for group quilting.

In order to reproduce the several scenes portrayed in the seal, about seventy-five pieces were traced on paper, cut, applied to fabric as tracing cuts, and appliqued in their correct positions. Lots of new quilting and sewing techniques were learned along the way as the seal came together.

"Most of the fabrics came from our own supplies and fabric collections," according to Barbara Tryon. "We dragged in our whites and greens and blues and discarded this and that. Once the stitching got started it moved from house to house."

Early morning meetings occurred in the center of town as the work-in-progress



was passed from quilter to quilter. New friendships have been made in the process.

After the sesquicentennial celebration, the quilt will be on permanent display at the Town Hall.

The group feels that Edith Wilson's spirit informed the work and that she would have been pleased with the finished project.

Fran Amidon and Laura Gaccione

### CHARLES J. FERRIS Attorney at Law



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## ANOTHER LOOK AT AN HISTORIC DISTRICT

The May Annual Town Meeting voted down Monterey's applying for the center of Town to become a National Register Historic District. This issue will undoubtedly come to the vote again, though when is not determined.

Some facts about becoming part of the National Register may not have been understood. From a property owner's viewpoint, there are substantial differences between owning a property which is listed in a National Register Historic District and one which is a part of a Local Historic District.

Listing in the National Register recognizes the historical importance of a district and/or individual buildings, sites, structures, and objects. Although it is administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the Massachusetts Historical Commission, it is a federal designation which in no way limits the owner's use of the property unless public funding is used.

Properties within the National Register are automatically included in the State Register of Historic Places. This inclusion does not mean that the area has become a Local Historic District, which appeared so threatening to property owners in the discussion at Town Meeting. *Only if property is listed as a Local*

*Historic District is it subject to any local regulations.* Inclusion in a Local Historic District requires review of proposed exterior changes required by the Local District. The issue rejected at Town Meeting was to apply to become a National District. In either case, there is no restriction on the sale of such property. Those restrictions are dictated by local zoning ordinances.

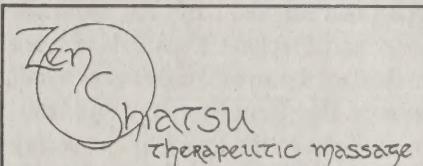
The importance of Monterey's being listed in the National Register and State Register of Historic Places is that it provides owners of municipal (as in Town Hall) or private nonprofit (as in the Church) properties opportunity to apply for 50% matching state grants through the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund, administered by the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

Printed material from the Commission says, "Historic cultural resources in public and nonprofit ownership and use frequently suffer from deferred maintenance, incompatible use, or are threatened by demolition. These important resources represent a significant portion of the Commonwealth's heritage. By providing assistance to historic cultural resources owned by nonprofit or municipal entities, the Massachusetts Historical Commission hopes to ensure their continued use and integrity."

Among properties listed as eligible for such help is listed, "a religious prop-

erty deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance." The Monterey Historical Commission views the church in the center of Town as likely to qualify, and the Town has been made recently aware that the church needs help. The above information was provided by the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

Jane Black



Lauren Paul      413-258-4296  
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Peter S. Vallianos  
Attorney at Law  
528-0055

General practice includes real estate purchases, sales, family transfers, and transfers in trust, zoning, land use matters, conservation restrictions landlord-tenant; wills, probate; commercial law.  
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## WILDLIFE SURVEY

**The Roadside:** Those banks of low-growing, off-white umbels (as the ones on the north side of Main Road across from where the New Marlboro Road comes in) are called bishop's weed or goutweed, suggesting ancient medicinal use. The tangles of trees of every size, snapped off or uprooted by the July 3 tornado, reminds travelers (on Main Road, Hupi Rd., Mt. Hunger Rd. and Tyringham Rd. and the south and north shores and Elephant Rock Rd. of Lake Garfield) of the awesome power of wind!

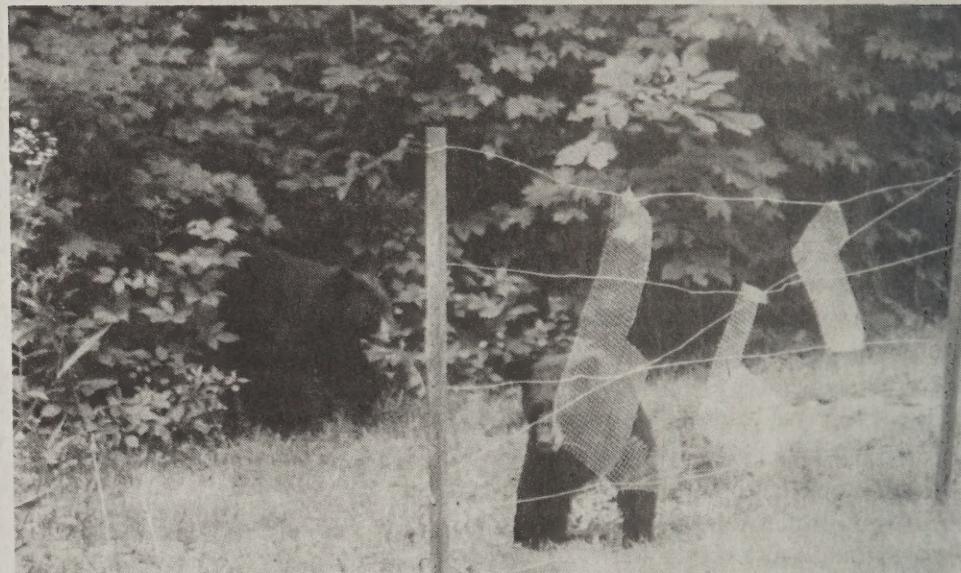
**Fathers' Day Bear Story:** Arthur Somers has been so frustrated by not seeing one of our many bears that his family presented him with a toy bear on Fathers' Day. On that same day a real bear came out of their woods and sniffed and explored its way around their house where they now live on Cronk Road, three times, while they watched, following from window to window.

### The Bears that Wouldn't Go A way:

During a temporary absence of the family dog Raoul, a mother bear and her yearling cub stopped by the home of Michèle Miller and Peter Murkett late Monday afternoon, July 14. Michèle was home alone when she heard a sound on the back porch and discovered the bears rummaging around for food. She called Dale Duryea (Dale has for several years been Monterey Wildlife Control Officer, a position to which Martin Clark was recently appointed by the Select Board), and before he arrived Peter returned home with their son Riley.

The bears seemed little concerned with human presence. Dale succeeded in backing them into the woods with the sound of gunshots, but they returned after a short while. Meantime Monterey Police Chief Gareth Backhaus responded, as well as Environmental Police Officer Glenn Lagerwall. Peter went down to Rawson Brook Farm to recruit Wayne Dunlop, and they rigged up a temporary electric fence baited with honey on hardware cloth. This in the hope that the bears would lick the honey and get a discouraging jolt. Electric fences are normally wasted on bears because their thick fur has an insulating effect. Tom Gillis, who lives just up the road, had

## NOT LIONS, NOT TIGERS, BUT BEARS: "OH MY!"



*The sow (left) and cub at the electric fence baited with honey on hardware cloth.*

*Photo by Wayne Dunlop*

### WHAT TO DO IF A BEAR VISITS YOU

If you are having a problem with a bear, or any kind of animal - domestic, rabid, or wild, the number to call is the Monterey police at 528-3211. The call will be routed to the appropriate authority. The only exception is if a wild animal is in your house; call 911.

To prevent visits, keep garbage away from the house - don't put it in an open garage or on a porch. Make sure that no doors are left open. Electric fences will keep bears away, but they will simply go to the next house. Dogs seem to be a deterrent.

Chief Backhaus reports that two months ago on Mt. Hunger Road, someone came home to find a bear trapped in their mudroom. The door opened in, and the bear couldn't get back out. After leaving the house to call the police at the General Store, the owner returned with Monterey and environmental police (for backup) to find that the distressed bear had broken a window to escape.

Bears like bird feeders, and those closer to the house can bring a bear closer than one might like.

No calls have been received in Monterey regarding problems in campgrounds, but Chief Backhaus feels it may be a matter of time. "We're saturated. In the past, whenever there was a bear in a neighborhood that kept venturing too close, it would be relocated to a more rural area like Beartown Mt. State Park, but they've gotten to the point that we're saturated and they've had to stop relocating them. There's no place to put to put the bears and no resources to transport them long distances, so they're going to try extending the bear hunting season. If that doesn't work, they may have to shoot them."

ended repeat visits from bears a few years before using this hot-bait technique. The fence was in place when the bears came back, but the sow was quick to sense the electricity, and approached warily. The cub was less cautious, and leapt back when his ear touched the fence, but didn't get a seriously deterrent shock. The sow managed to retrieve a honeyed pie tin from under the fence without touching any wires,

and licked it clean.

Glenn Lagerwall has dealt with many bears around human habitation throughout the Berkshires recently, some weeks responding to as many as twenty-four calls. He praised the fence, and suggested wrapping bacon around the wire. The most successful deterrent in his experience is pepper spray. He said bears

have highly developed memories, and the best thing humans can do for bears who come around houses looking for food is to inflict pain that does no lasting harm, and leaves an unpleasant memory. It's a step beyond Do Not Feed the Bears, and will help reduce the chances of a more violent accidental encounter between bears and people, given the rapidly increasing local bear population.

**Beavers:** The half-grown beaver in David and Beryl McAllester's pond, did leave June 24th, after its dams in the spillway had been removed 10 times. A beaver has been seen on the public beach at Lake Garfield and has felled trees on several properties south of the beach.

**Young birds leaving their nests:** David McAllester saw their tree swallows take to the air on July 6th and Eleanore Kimberley reports that hers took off on the 8th. Young phoebe have also flown, at about the same time.

**Flowers:** On Lake Garfield, June 23, the viburnum was still in bloom along the north shore and the laurel was at its height. Yellow iris is everywhere and the yellow stars of shrubby cinquefoil where it grows on waterlogged stumps. June 25: bedstraw, goutweed, yellow hawkweed, daisy fleabane, watercress, daisies and black-eyed Susans everywhere, ragged robin, meadow rue, flowering raspberry, hellebore. June 29: blackberry, laurels dropping last years leaves, bright yellow on the ground. July 3: grey twigged dogwood, bladder campion, blue curls, swamp azalea, tansy, yarrow, red and yellow clover, Canada lilies. July 14: pipsissiwa, red baneberries, elderberry, forget-me-not.

**Mushrooms:** Alice Somers reports the first chanterelles, and a parasol mushroom, July 14 on Cronk Road and says that the morels reported for June 16th are a record. The latest she has seen them is June 6, another indication of the late year we've been having. Her notable collection of mushroom books is becoming available to the public: already at the Simon's Rock library are 48 titles, including The Complete Book of Mushrooms, Augusto Rinaldi and Vasili Tyndolo, Cueillez des Champignons, H. Romagnesi, Mushrooms of North America, Orson K. Miller, Mushrooms, Wild and Edible, Vincent Marteka. More will be coming from Florida in due course. Alice says there is a new movement afoot, growing wild mushrooms at home for both culinary and medicinal purposes. Jody and Nancy Ratner report finding 10 morels of all sizes near their home in late May. "We let them air dry and then used them - deliciously - a few weeks later for a birthday celebration."

David P. McAllester

## GOULD FARM RECEIVES GRANT TO EXTEND NATURE WALK

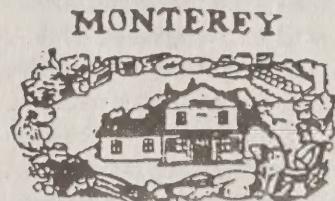
Gould Farm has been awarded a \$2,800 grant from the Massachusetts Forest Stewardship Program. The funds will be used to develop the Gould Farm Nature Walk and Wildlife Sanctuary, an extension of Diane's Memorial Trail, a 1.2 mile trail which opened in 1995.

The new trail will be two miles long, looping around wetlands, woodlands and animal barns. A small visitor's center will be built on Curtis Road, the entrance to the Farm, just off Route 23 in Monterey. Gould Farm hopes to encourage visitors to explore the various ecosystems and sites along the trail.

There will be a printed map and trail guide available. In announcing the grant, Brian Snyder, Executive Director of the Farm commented, "We hope to acquaint people with the natural resources that have helped those who come to the Farm with emotional disabilities begin to rebuild their lives". It is expected that the Gould Farm Nature Walk and Wildlife

Sanctuary will take about a year to complete. Preliminary work has begun, and the Farm is looking for volunteers who may be interested in participating in this project. For further information, call Bob Rausch at 528-1804.

Gould Farm is currently the subject of The Visionaries, a national PBS television documentary series featuring non-profit organizations that do outstanding work. Selected from among 3,000 non-profit applicants, the two-part episode featuring the Farm has been distributed to 175 PBS affiliates across the country for airing this summer.



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## STORMY NIGHTS IN MONTEREY

Here in Monterey we have had our share of weather in the past week. Monday night we got more than three inches of rain. The proud potato plants fell over, their blossoms filled with mud, and the driveway got roughed up, gullied. A few days earlier the tornado here missed us by 0.2 miles, crossing our road just up the hill, and last night's lightning knocked out the electric fencer. These are not exciting reports, really. No death or destruction. During the tornado we huddled in our little cellar guest room with two dogs and eight people, listening to the battery radio. WSBS was coming in kind of spotty:

"Crackle...crackle...crackle...Monterey...crackle....crackle..." but just the fact that we were on the air at all let us hope things weren't as bad as two years ago, when we were so blacked out here in Monterey that it was many hours before we or anyone else understood what had happened to us. Thursday night was not without radio drama, though. At one point our reception cleared temporarily and we heard: "We've got our mobile unit headed for Monterey now. Bob-- are you there? Hmm. I dunno, can't seem to raise them. I know they're headed out there. Bob? Bob? Are you there?" Then we could just hear Bob, dim and crackly, headed for our town.

"I'm headed out route 23 now....."

"Bob, would you say there is a lot of damage out there?"

"Uh, yeah....."

"Well, how does it look?"

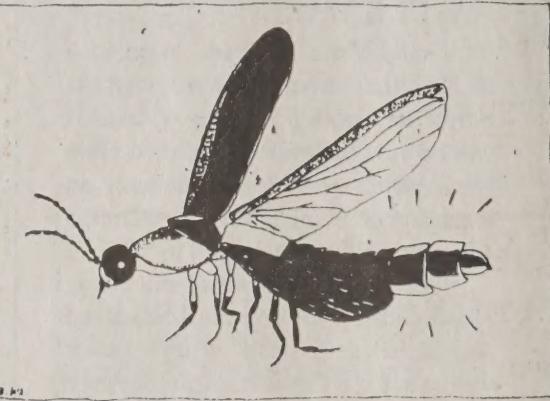
"....Crackle.....)"

"Bob!!? Are you there???.  
We lost him!"

After we lost Bob, we began to hear mostly stories from the last tornado, and this relaxed us some. We knew how these stories came out in the end. We began to get some perspective, to understand that soon the '97 tornado would be transformed into a collection of stories, memories, landmarks.

These summer storms shake me up. In my tee shirt and shorts I just don't feel

protected the way I do in the winter when I have on big boots and heavy clothing all the time anyway. In the summer I am used to focussing on gentler passions: seeds germinating, flowers opening, hummingbirds visiting the scarlet runner beans. On a close, overcast night I like to walk out to our orchard in the stillness. With no stars or moon visible I like to watch the fireflies, our own personal light show. I always remember an old "Archy and Mehitabel" record we had in which Archy the cockroach is writing about a show-off lightning bug. He says, "I watched your



lightning all night long, but I don't hear no thunder! (I guess that took him down a peg or two.)"

You can watch fireflies from a distance and not hear the thunder, it's true. But if you get close enough to some of these summer passions, you'll find they are just as furious as any tornado, on their own scale. Watch a time-lapse film of a plant sprouting and growing and you'll remember "the Invasion of the Body-snatchers". Look closely into the lives of our local fireflies and you will think thunder is tame by comparison.

The cool, seemingly random flickering is really the fireflies' complicated, competitive life's work going on. Like most insects, they only live a short time and their business is procreation. On a given evening in July there may be several species in one field, after dark, flashing out signals to potential mating partners. The ratio of males to females is 50 to one, and if you wonder what becomes of all those extra males and why anyone bothered to put them there, the answer is, many of them wind up nourishing the (cannibalistic) mated females, who need extra protein for egg production.

One common, large species around here is called Photuris. She communicates by specific flashes with Photuris males. After mating she may change to imitate the flashes of a different species called Photinus. The Photinus male, fooled by her false message, may come in close hoping to mate with a female of his own kind, only to be gobbed up by the already-mated large Photuris. It gets more complicated than this, though, as large Photuris males can recognize the false flashes as coming from females of their own species and will respond with false Photinus flashes themselves, just to get in close. Then at the last minute they raise their true colors and give the Photuris mating flash, hoping to change the female's interest from food to sex. This is unlikely, as the cannibalistic females are already mated and are more in need of a meal than a mate. Still, it must work out some of the time or natural selection would not have produced all these double-agent males. If they got eaten they would not pass along their clever genes.

The quiet flashing of fireflies in our orchard may look peaceful, but if we could just understand their code it would be a lot like the other night in our cellar: "Bob??!! is that you?? Are you there?? Come on in a little closer, honey....CHOMP!" We lost him.....but not really. He is nourishing the next generation, contributing to the next round of summer storm stories.

Bonner J. McAllester

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August 22  
Ribs, Rhythm & Blues  
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& THE SWEET SISTERS OF MERCY"  
"HEIDI HARRIS"

There was a golden crescent moon,  
vivid in the August sky,  
and again on the still  
lake's surface.  
The soft, blond light  
guided our canoe  
as we paddled silently,  
Indian fashion.  
Pulling into some shallows  
we lit our lantern  
for deer-shining.  
Then we saw them,  
two beautiful creatures  
drinking at the water's edge,  
Looking up at us,  
startled heads held high,  
Mesmerized by the light,  
they were perfectly still.  
It was a sight of beauty  
to haunt us for a lifetime  
but it only lasted seconds.

Nancy Adams

*The Mushroom*

Hail to you,  
scavenger!  
You push up  
in the fall  
from the ooze  
in the woods  
everywhere  
round and white  
in dark caves  
overnight.  
colorful  
parasols  
multiply.  
fairy rings  
feast for kings  
food for death  
up from earth  
gills and spores.  
rot-maker!  
underground  
toll-taker!  
rank, rampant  
stopped short by  
hot, dry sand -  
the desert.

Nancy D. Adams

*I am standing in a room*

*Empty, hushed, like a shrine.*  
*Sun and shadows cascade*  
*Through windows closed, for now.*  
*Bright, vacant, except for a bed,*  
*Twisted sheets, tumbled pillows*  
*An altar where sacrifice raged*  
*Then left, passion spent,*  
*Every crease still showing*  
*The fury of the offering.*  
*I breathe*  
*A familiar, fecund fragrance*  
*Lingers in the clenched cloth*  
*Warm in my fingers.*  
*Heat from the sun,*  
*Heat from a fire passed*  
*Fluid, between two forms*  
*That writhed and grasped*  
*For that moment of perfection*  
*Each believed*  
*The other held*  
*The room is empty*  
*But not quite silent*  
*Even now,*  
*Voices, noises, bestial and beautiful*  
*Thicken the air*  
*With a faint rhythmic chaos*  
*Pulse in the dust*  
*Held in the sunlight*  
*Truth was spoken here*  
*Promises are kept inside these walls*  
*Waiting to be claimed*  
*Eager to be renewed*  
*The sun waits, the shadows wait*  
*I will leave*  
*But I will return*  
*The door remains open*  
*To this expectant haven*  
*Where two souls still gasp and grope*  
*To god-like ecstasy*

Nick Hardcastle



Strange partners  
in a celestial dance, circling, circling  
to the music of the tides.  
The Moon, strong and lithe,  
shows a firm hand  
and sure racing feet  
as he leads Earth  
with her heavier, slower steps.  
Around her he flies in large elipses  
and she makes small circles  
around him, intricate and neat.  
But move they must  
to the sound of the tides.  
When Earth would rest,  
the strength of his gravitation  
compels her to continue.  
He tugs at her hand,  
an insistent force  
in the restless patterns.  
Her high heels sway precariously,  
then catch the rhythm  
and he whisks her onward,  
he, who bends the water.  
The energies of the Moon and Earth  
are engaged in an endless dance.

Nancy Adams

Listen for the blue image  
the icon snow  
the aloof princess of holy reason  
has dropped  
the Ishtar tablets  
with its resined gauze rent  
the Isis veil's torn  
the Hathor crown crushed  
the stale pomegranates fallen  
the bathpillars are steamed  
and the Venus swan soap  
rocks across the tub  
(the fireworks perfume)  
the virgin windows are wide  
open to the night air  
THEN THEN THEN  
all the men  
everywhere  
are again transfixed and stare  
as Beauty eternal  
(Mother of all the Living)  
drops her slipper moon  
points her delicate coral foot  
and wonders what to wear!

A.O. Howell



## SENUCENTENNIAL BOOK AND VIDEO FOR SALE

The video of the Memorial Day Parade, kickoff for the 150th celebration, is now available for purchase in the Monterey General store for \$15. The video is directed by John Sellew, with camera work by Jason Brown, Mick Burns, Gale Forbes, Nancy Putnam, John Sellew and Jim Thomas, with still photos by Tom Rosenthal and Maggie Leonard.

Also available now is the celebration book *Monterey, A Local History*, edited by former *Monterey News* editor Peter Murkett. The book made its debut at the July 26 Fireman's Steak Roast where sales of the \$25 book were brisk.

The book is a social and cultural rather than formal history - an exploration of the community, the land and the people, including Native Americans, early English settlers, generations of farmers and mill workers, artists, tourist and second-homeowners. The Church, commerce, agriculture, and recreation are all covered.

Included are excerpts from the journal of Elihu Harmon, a fifteen-year-old boy who lived in Monterey in the late nineteenth century. "It gives a lively, spirited account of Monterey in the late nineteenth century, when there were a lot of mills in town and things were bustling," according to Murkett.

Accounts of the Mahican Indian settlements in the area were written by our Wildlife correspondent David McAllester, retired professor of cultural anthropologist at Wesleyan University. David's daughter, *News* columnist Bonner McAllester, wrote a section on homeschooling. Delight Wing Dodyk and Kathy Page Wasiuk, who authored the wonderful chuch history series in the *News* also contributed.

At two hundred pages with over 175 photos and graphics, it even contains gorgeous pictures of the Memorial Day Parade by the *News'* Maggie Leonard. It is a beautifully done, unique history of the community whose anniversary slogan is "Tis the people who make the place."

Laura Gaccione

## LAKE GARFIELD ASSOC.'

On June 21, the Lake Garfield Association held their first meeting of the summer. The primary topic of discussion was the grant we have received from the state to introduce weevils into the lake to control the Eurasian water millfoil. As previously reported, we are unable to obtain the weevils this year. We decided to pursue a study intended to determine if the weevils are already present in the lake in some quantity.

There was also some discussion concerning regulations governing tree cutting around the lake. The Monterey Conservation Commission regulates all activity within 100 feet of the lake. Tree cutting within this area is permitted, but not without approval from that commission.

Underground oil tanks represent an environmental hazard to the lake. If you own property around the lake, we strongly suggest that you have your underground fuel tank properly removed. It will eventually be required, but the sooner it is removed, the better. Another topic of concern for lake property owners is the recently rewritten "Title 5 - State Septic Code." It requires the inspection of systems prior to transfer of title (selling your house) or expansion in the number of bedrooms (increased flow). The Berkshire Regional Planning Commission is currently organizing a series of workshops regarding these new regulations and how they impact lake properties in particular. If you contact Amy Pfeifer at (413) 442-1521, she would gladly place you on a mailing list for notification once these seminars are scheduled. Planned topics at these seminars will include how to arrange for an inspection, what the likely costs of the systems are, a planned state loan program to help deal with the high costs of these upgrades, and a discussion of your rights as a homeowner if your local Board of Health chooses to impose much stricter requirements than those of the State.

For the 150th Anniversary, the Association is providing rides around the lake on Sunday, August 3 at 2:00 p.m. Meet at Kinne's Grove (please park up from the bottom) and pontoon boats (and

others) are arranged for you to see the beauty of the lake and the recent damage from our July 3rd tornado.

While on the lake, keep an eye out for swimmers. This summer there have been numerous cases of people swimming out into the lake unescorted. This is extremely dangerous as glare from the water can make you difficult to spot from a boat. Preferably, swim along the shore rather than out, or have someone escort you in a canoe or rowboat.

The Association has bright swim caps available from Fran Am idon (528-1233) at a subsidized price. We also have Lake Garfield tee-shirts available. If you would like one, please call me at 528-2744 or come to our next meeting. The meeting will be held on August 23rd at 10:00 a.m. in the Firehouse. We are looking for a Secretary for the Association, so if you would like to help out, please contact me soon so we can vote you in at the August meeting.

David Quisenberry, President  
Lake Garfield Association

## MONTEREY LIBRARY NOTES

The sounds of music and laughter will be emanating from the Monterey Library on Saturday, August 2 as nationally known storyteller and folksinger John Porcino makes a return appearance at 10:30 a.m. John will accompany himself on an array of instruments including the fiddle, guitar, African drums, pennywhistle, rainstick and even a conch shell. John's performances always include audience participation, so help make a joyful noise to celebrate Monterey's 150th birthday. This free performance is made possible by a grant from the Monterey Cultural Council.

While you are at the library, you will also be able to pick up some fantastic bargains at our summer book sale on Saturday, August 2 from 10:00 to 1:00. Also, it's not too late to sign up your child for the summer reading program. It's a fun way for children to boost their reading skills and to discover the joy of literature.

Laurie Shaw

## MONTEREY MEETING HOUSE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

The Monterey Meeting House Capital Campaign is off to a great start, according to Bob Emmel, Chair of the campaign to restore the 148 year old meeting house. "We've passed the \$75,000 mark" said Emmel. The campaign seeks to raise \$209,000 to restore the Greek Revival style meetinghouse, located in the center of this picturesque Berkshire village. The meeting house is a major reason Monterey exists, according to local sources. Monterey was formerly part of Tyringham, and split off in 1847 over a dispute about where to locate the new meeting house.

Restoration efforts will include foundation, roof and belfry refurbishing, handicap access, and restoration to the organ. The town celebrates its sesquicentennial this summer, and "the meeting house campaign will help to preserve this central piece of Monterey history," said Rev. Keith Snow, pastor of the church. The building also serves as a community center, as it is home to the Monterey Food Co-op, various civic groups, and hosted town meetings for 125 years. Contributions may be sent to The Monterey Meeting House Campaign, P.O. Box 182, Monterey, MA. and are fully tax deductible. For more information: Kathy Page Wasiuk at 413-528-3283.

## NOTHING I DO IS MY FAULT

There is a delightful "Calvin and Hobbes" cartoon by Bill Watterson that goes like this:

Calvin: "Nothing I do is my fault." He continues, while Hobbes scratches his face: "My family is dysfunctional and my parents won't empower me! Consequently, I'm not self-actualized! My behavior is addictive functioning in a disease process of toxic codependency! I need holistic healing and wellness before I'll accept any responsibility for my actions!"

Hobbes responds: "One of us needs to stick his head in a bucket of ice water." Calvin concludes: "I love the culture of victimhood."

I suspect that Calvin is not alone! As more and more behavior and disease "syndromes" surface, it appears, the less responsibility the individual person needs to assume. "Victimhood" is a way of looking at oneself and saying: I am who I am because other people and circumstances have made me this way. I am not responsible for my life.

Over the last few Sundays, the congregation has been hearing a lot about the rise and fall of King David. He is a complicated person, as each one of us is. He has many strengths and weaknesses, as each one of us has. One of those strengths is his willingness, even though reluctant at times, to assume responsibility for his decisions, his actions, his life. One of the more notorious incidents is his "appropriation" of Bathsheba. The prophet Nathan confronts David with his destructive use of royal power, essentially raping Bathsheba and then having his army chief of staff, Joab, provide the cover-up by having her husband, Uriah, killed.

David, upon being confronted with his violent abuse of power, assumes responsibility for his actions. It is a simple story with a powerful truth.

A number of years ago, Keith Reemtsma, M.D., then chairman of the department of surgery at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, wrote an article in the New York Times entitled: "Your Fault Insurance". In it he stated that "in the U.S. the major medical problems no longer are infectious diseases; they are diseases of the heart and blood vessels, cancer and accidents. Some diseases are beyond our ability to control; others, however, we do know how to prevent. We smoke too much, we drink (and eat) too much, we drive too fast, and we shoot each other.

"Today, health is largely a matter of individual choices. How should Americans be persuaded to take care of themselves?" Reemtsma goes on to suggest that "when health hazards have been identified, and some individuals choose to ignore these warnings, it seems reasonable to ask that those individuals, and not society as a whole, pay for the medical consequences of their choices." I suspect that "victims" would not be comfortable with that approach.

"Fault" and "responsibility" are not words that are commonly associated with the victim's vocabulary. Yet stories such as that of King David and Bathsheba serve to remind us that all the current jargon associated with behavioral, medical, and psychological diagnoses have to be set alongside individual responsibility.

Rev. Keith Snow

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## DEDICATION CEREMONY

About 200 people attended the dedication of the Monterey Veterans Memorial Park on the corner of Rte.23 and Blue Hill Road on the cool and sunny morning of July 4, 1997. A handsome granite stele designed by Frank D'Amato indicates the park and will be joined later with smaller ones, each dedicated to a war in which American veterans fought.

The flag raising, firing squad salute, color guard, playing of Taps by guest Allan Dean, remarks, and speeches honored with respect and gratitude the 40 million American veterans of all wars and specifically the 150 or more veterans of Monterey. The message delivered by Arnold Hayes, Sergeant Major US Army Retired and Monterey resident, was a serious parody of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address that not only honored the dead but also reminded us that "The Struggle to preserve the American ideals as set forth by our forefathers is not based on dividing factors such as race, religion, ethnicity, or cultural differences ... Only when we all treat our fellow beings with respect and decency here and throughout the world will we preserve that American ideal for which so many have sacrificed."

He spoke of the great civil struggle of today which tests whether we as a nation , dedicated to liberty and to the proposition that tall are created equal, will endure. The Rev. Keith Snow spoke

of our duty to be Peacemakers in a world, troubled by differences and rapid changes. The underlying theme was that we have much to be grateful for and proud of, but that we have a great challenge to promote the ideals of the Fourth of July that brought us all together to dedicate the Monterey Veterans Memorial Park.

Dean Amidon, Chairman of the Veterans Memorial Committee, made the Dedication speech and gave lots of thanks to those involved. He, in turn, was thanked by the audience for his effort. Amidon reminded the audience that the Committee still needs \$10,000 to complete the park.

The ceremony concluded with the singing of America and God Bless America by The Hill and Dale Songsters and the crowd. The festivity did not end until after wonderful refreshments by the Sheffield Kiwanis.

Jane Black



## VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

The July 4th dedication of the Monterey Veterans Memorial Park exceeded all expectations. So many people contributed their time and resources that it is futile to try to list them all, however, at great risk, I will mention a few: V.F.W. Post #8348 and their Auxiliary from Great Barrington, Monterey veterans, Allan Dean-trumpeter, Sheffield Kiwanis for refreshments, Leigh Tryon and Phil Newey for their hard work, time and materials, Paul Arienti for the first of our beautiful granite monuments, Arnie Hayes for developing the program and a very moving patriotic talk, Frank D'Amato for his designs of the present and future monuments, the Hill and Dale singers, Rev. Keith Snow for his wise invocation and benediction, all workers and committee members and a special thanks to those of you who have donated \$10,000 toward our goal of \$20,000. Two more monuments for Vietnam, Korea, and W.W. II have been ordered already - it takes 90 days to cut and inscribe them - even though we don't have sufficient funds. As the fund drive nears completion, either one or two more monuments will be ordered bearing the names of veterans of all wars from W.W. I to the Revolutionary War.

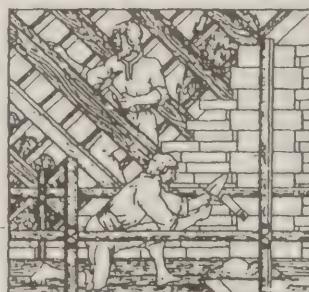
If you have not yet donated, please do so and if you have, please consider another donation in order that during our 150th town celebration, we may leave a legacy for the town to forever honor all Monterey veterans in this beautiful town park.

Dean P. Amidon

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## PERSONAL NOTES

July was a quiet month in Monterey, or so it seems from the vantage point of the Personal Notes editor. The Higgins family went to Canada at the beginning of the month, and arrived in Ottawa in time to enjoy the Canada Day celebrations on July 1st. We had a fun day, finishing up with a splendid fireworks display, which was preceded by a wholly unexpected (by us, at least) free concert by Buffy Ste. Marie.

Congratulations to Karen Traynor of Halifax, MA., who recently earned her M.Ed. degree in Counseling, graduating with Distinction from Bridgewater State College. She was the Valedictorian of Mount Everett's class of 1984, and graduated, Summa cum Laude, from Bridgewater State in 1988, with a B.S. in Psychology. Karen is the daughter of Arnold and Judy Hayes of Tyringham Rd. Very Happy Birthday wishes to Chelsey Smith on August 2, to Gabriella Makuc on August 4, to Katie Kopetchny on August 5, to David McAllester on August 6, to Ann Burns Smith on August 7, to Patrick Sheridan on August 9, to Katie and Sarah Olds on August 15, to Michelle Grotz and Zachary Transport on August 20, to Amanda Thorn and Henri Gauthier on August 24, to Ann McGinley on August 26, and to Rick

Mielke on August 30.

Happy Anniversary to Tom and Jane Thorn on August 19, to Stefan and Stephanie Grotz on August 23, to Tom Morrison and Pam Gauthier on August 28, to Jeff and Hannah Moran on August 29, and a very happy 10th Anniversary to Bill and Maureen Meier on August 22. If you have any news to share or Birthday or Anniversary greetings you would like to send along, please drop me a line at P.O. Box 351, Monterey, or give me a call at 528-6691, if possible before the 12th of each month. Thanks so much.

Ann Higgins

## BIDWELL FAMILY ASSOCIATION REUNION

It's an annual event, the Bidwell Family Association Reunion, held in a different location each year, and drawing people from all across the nation...and beyond. This year, held at Niagara Falls, there were about 125 in attendance. The oldest was 90 years of age and came from N. Hollywood, CA; the youngest were our twin 14-month-old grandsons, Eric and Ryan, who, with their parents and 5-year old brother Jesse, had a ball.

Wherever it is held, the Reunion offers not only a good time socially, but also historically by focusing on some

aspect of Bidwell Family History associated with the local area. This year was no exception. Starting with a tour Friday night of the Falls, a ride on the Maid-of-the-Mist, dinner in Canada, a drive to the Floral Clock, and back just in time to view the spectacular display of the Falls illuminated and the Friday-night-Fireworks, all of which was breath-taking to say the least.

Saturday began with a Bidwell history lesson, done as a skit - very informatively - concerning George R. Bidwell, who was a pioneer in the early bicycle industry, beginning as an importer of British velocipedes. Then followed a business meeting, lunch, social time, and back for the afternoon's presentation by members of the 49th NY Vol. Inf. Unit, whose commander had been Gen. Daniel Davidson Bidwell during the Civil War. He was killed at Cedar Creek while in command of the Regiment, but is remembered throughout the Buffalo area where there are many monuments in tribute to him. On Sunday, the group was given a tour of these monuments, including the cemetery in which he is buried.

Among the highlights of each reunion is the sharing of family papers, photos, documents, etc., pertinent to Bidwell history, and the discovery of new information concerning ancestors and lineage. This year Arnie found some long-sought-after documentation of Bidwells serving in the Revolutionary War. And we provided some missing pieces concerning Bidwells in the Civil War, something the Family Historian had been looking for.

We both came away feeling very satisfied. Although the reunions are short, the camaraderie experienced in meeting with relatives...close or distant...is something we really look forward to. New faces are added with each reunion, but it is always wonderful to see the old, familiar faces, even if it is only once a year! Next year, 1998, the group is going back to Britain, the birthplace of our common original ancestor. We are already thinking about it...

Judy Hayes



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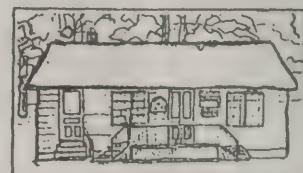
Small is a Honda, medium is a Ford Taurus,

and large is a Mac truck."

-- Matthew Breuer, a Roadside regular

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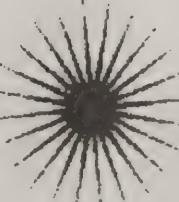
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Sun. noon-5

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## SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE NEWS

Good news: The data obtained from use of the new paper compactor surpasses my wildest dreams! Wayne Burkhardt, Monterey's Solid Waste Commissioner, reported at the last District meeting that before the new compactor the average haul of a hand-loaded rolloff was less than 4 tons and now the average is over 8 tons. As the bulk of our hauling charges were for paper, those charges have now been cut in half. On top of that I think we will all agree that the paper operation at the transfer station is much easier now.

The Composting Bin program went very well. Comments are welcome. As of this writing there are none left. We received 31 bins and have raised \$655 when all the monies are in.

We were grant recipients and got the bins through the DEP at a greatly reduced rate. These monies went into a special gift account to be used for the purchase of new bins. We still have to figure out what to

charge this time around, but it will probably be around \$35. The bins retail for \$70. If you are interested, call me at 528-0550, or Larry at 528-5922.

By the time you have read this, the Solid Waste Committee will have met to discuss the refurbishment of the Transfer Station. Work will presumably begin in the fall. We hope to have the containers, including the metal and perhaps bulky waste, all in one line, with the top of the containers at roadway level for easy accessibility.

Last month Selectwoman Muriel Lazarini, Transfer Station attendant Bob Curtis and your Truly took a trip with other attendants and Commissioners from the district to the Materials Recycling Facility (MRF). We were escorted around the plant by Steve Ellis, MRF Director. It is a massive and enormously loud facility. We saw the paper compacted into bales, plastic squashed and baled, watched as workers sorted glass and cans by hand and generally learned a lot. One thing we learned is that we continually have to think about what we use and the waste it produces. If we can just

remember and then implement the three "R's" we will help immensely: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle! In that order!

It is particularly important at this time to reduce the consumption of paper. The paper market is suffering at the moment. The MRF, and their parent organization, Waste Management, are having difficulties in finding buyers for used paper. So it is important to not only use less paper, but when we buy paper we must make sure it is labeled "Recycled."

Some do's: Reuse your brown paper bags. (Maynard would love it - so would Gale, Chris, Jill, Morgan, Paul and Trish.) Reuse your plastic bags and containers. Compost some of your paper; newsprint is mostly biodegradable these days. Reuse those plaguey junk mail envelopes whenever you can, especially writing to your nearest and dearest and tell them why. And, if you're up to it, vociferously complain to companies and manufacturers about excessive packaging.

I am sorry to report that we were unable to get our recycling education program underway this year.

Of interest - and more good news: Susie Crofut reported that she heard on NPR that Rome (of all places) has found a way to extract the methane from its garbage. They then use the extracted methane to fuel their garbage trucks. Now isn't that wonderful.

Joyce Scheffey

## CONTRIBUTORS

Bill & Jane Bohn  
Matthew & Barbara Breuer  
Edward & Margaret Brown  
Jonathan & Catharyn Fletcher  
Mickey & Maxine Freundlich  
Henry Goldberg  
Michelle Grotz  
Paul & Annette Hagen  
Dara Jenssen & Richard Tiven  
Peter Kleban  
Howard & Martha Lefkowitz  
Robert McMahon & Jeanne Randorf  
Richard & Pauline Nault  
Lauren Paul  
Karl & Shirley Quisenberry  
Cathy Roth & Victoria Reed  
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## HANS T. KESSLER FORMER MONTEREY SELECTMAN

Hans T. Kessler, 78, of Monterey, died July 12 while traveling to Leipzig, Germany. Born in Jena, Germany, on Aug. 15, 1918, son of Gerhard and Dorothea Rauf Kessler, he moved with his family to Leipzig, where he attended the Koenigin Carla Gymnasium. Because of the political environment of Germany at the time, he and his family were forced to move to Istanbul, Turkey, in 1933, where he attended Alman Lisesi.

He moved to the U.S. in 1938 and graduated from Hamilton College in Clinton, NY, in 1942. Mr. Kessler was drafted into the Army in 1942. His service included detached service in Washington, DC, the parachute infantry and the Battle of the Bulge. He joined Mobil International Oil in Cairo, Egypt, in 1946, where he was assigned as assistant to the manager for Egypt. Thereafter he occupied various posts including those of sales manager and general manager with Mobil affiliates in the Middle East.

He was appointed assistant general manager of Mobile Oil, Turkey, in 1952 and in 1954 became sales manager of Mobil A.O.F. in French West Africa. He was appointed regional coordinator for Austria, Greece, Italy, and Turkey in 1957 and moved to New York City. He retired in 1980. A summer and weekend resident of Monterey since 1957, he made it his permanent home upon his retirement.

Mr. Kessler was a member of the Monterey Board of Selectmen from 1981 until 1987, the Monterey Planning Board, and the Regional Planning Board from 1990 to 1993. He was also active on the Republican Town Committee and was a member of the Adirondack Mountain Club, where he had achieved the rating of Adirondack 46er, having hiked the entire region. He leaves his wife, the former Jane Sargent, whom he married in Tangier, Morocco in 1954; and two daughters, Hildy Kessler of Dallas and Elise Wiley of Buckfield, ME.

## ERNEST F. HEATH

Ernest F. Heath 66, of Main Road, died on July 18, 1997 at Fairview Manor in Great Barrington. Born in Monterey on Oct. 7, 1930, son of the late Harold D. and Hazel G. Kasson Heath, he attended the schoolhouse in Monterey and the former Seales High School in Great Barrington.

Mr. Heath was employed by the Green River Lumber Co. for 12 years, retiring in 1992. He was previously employed by the former John S. Lane lime plant in West Stockbridge. He enjoyed country western music and was a fan of horse and oxen drawing contests at the Great Barrington Fair. He leaves his wife, the former Marie Ward, whom he married May 3, 1952; three daughters, Mrs. Dolores M. Leffingwell of Canaan, Conn., Mrs. Susan C. Curtiss of Clayton and Mrs. Mary-Theresa Bynack of Monterey; a brother, Kenneth R. Heath of Monterey; a sister, Mrs. Ruth H. Coutherut of Great Barrington; seven grandchildren and one great-grandson. Another daughter, Irene M. Heath, died in November 1971.



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## FLORENCE G. BROWN

Mrs. Florence Gillett Brown, 93, of Corashire Road died Saturday, July 19, 1997 at Timberlyn Heights Nursing Home. Born in Kingston, NY, on Nov. 25, 1903, daughter of John R. and Sophia Wheater Gillett, she was a 1926 graduate of New York State College for Teachers at Albany. Mrs. Brown taught at the former Seales High School in Great Barrington until her marriage. In later years, she taught at the former Avalon School, where she was a strong advocate for special-needs children.

She was a member of Monterey Congregational Church and First Congregational Church in Great Barrington. She sang in both choirs, and was a former soloist in the Great Barrington church. She was a 60-year member of the Cincinnatus chapter of the Order of Eastern Star and served as master and chaplain of the Monterey Grange. Mrs. Brown was an exhibitor at many local fairs and also received many awards for her crochet handiwork.

She was recognized for her work in conservation. She was a volunteer at the former Barrington Fair. Her husband, Dr. Frederic Ward Brown, whom she married Nov. 30, 1931, died Aug. 14, 1958. She leaves two sons, Peter S. Brown of Monterey and Robert G. Brown of Tyringham; three sisters, Mrs. Alice M. Burhans of Monterey, Mrs. Charlotte M. Franz of Michigan and Mrs. Helen D. Schroeder of Katonah, NY; seven grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

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## MONTEREY GRANGE DISSOLVES AFTER 87 YEARS

The Monterey Grange has informed the Town that, after 87 years as an agricultural, social and service organization, it will cease to exist.

The group, which was actually Monterey's second Grange, the first having formed in 1875 and lasted 7 years, has been troubled with low attendance for some time. The decision was made at the July 23 meeting.

"The Grange is a national organization that began in 1867 as a way of getting isolated farm men and women organized into a group. It was based on agriculture because they were nearly all farmers at that time; but today many people in many occupations belong to the Grange." So began an award-winning skit that Monterey resident Eleanor Kimberly wrote in 1984. Long-time chair of the agriculture and conservation committee, Kimberly grew up and worked on a family farm. She was a member of the Grange for 70 years.

The Grange held needlework, art, photography, skit and other contests. Their most significant contribution to the Monterey is the building in which Town Hall is housed. They donated it to the Town with the understanding that the group would always be able to hold meetings there. Now that is no longer necessary.

Each year the Grange made a donation to support transportation services for the elderly in the county. Money was donated to the Town to replace trees destroyed in the Memorial Day, 1995 tornado.

Each year the Grange awarded someone in Monterey an Outstanding Citizen Award. They did handcrafts and "cheer boxes" to be brought to the elderly and those in hospitals. Nationally, the Grange sponsored "The Heiffer Project" which sent livestock to people in need in other countries.

At Delight W. Dodyk's July 25 talk at the Monterey Historical Society, Dodyk referred to the Grange as one of the first organizations that encouraged leadership for women and endorsed women's suffrage. She described the national Grange as wielding economic clout on behalf of its members by creating co-ops and bar-

gaining with the early Montgomery Ward Catalog business for discounts for Grange members.

"All projects and activities had the underlying purpose of helping someone or something," according to Kimberly.



This "Save the Family Farm" display in the Post Office last April was the last display of the Monterey Grange. Photo and story by Laura Gaccione

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To the editor:

As long-time subscribers, and as longer-time friends of Edith Wilson and Marjorie McLaughlin, we have a question. On the front page of the current (June) issue is the news that "the Select Board sees many possibilities for the Edith Wilson House." We know that the property came to the Town as a bequest from Edith Wilson. But we also understand that she and her life partner, Marjorie, had planned for years to make that bequest, by whichever survived the other. It was their joint intention for the future of the house which was their home for many years.

So wouldn't it be more accurate, as well as respectful to the memories of both Edith and Marjorie, to speak of the "Wilson-McLaughlin House"? We can't believe that Edith would rest easy knowing that *their* home was to be known forever by *her* name alone.

Yours sincerely,  
Jean Merrill Balderston  
David C. Balderston

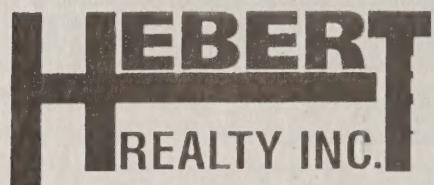
*The town reporter was reporting the words used by the Town in referring to the house. Until recently, when it was taken down, a sign erected by the Town at the house read "Edith Wilson House."*

*The Monterey News now has a policy of not printing anonymous letters. However, a copy of an article enclosed in such a letter is of interest:*

According to a July 7, 1997 *Time* magazine article entitled "However Briefly May It Wave," requests for flags are "forwarded by your Congressman to the Flag Office of the Capitol, where an average of 350 such Star-Spangled Banners are prepared for hoisting every day. The flags are run up for less than a minute each by Capitol Architect workers on three special poles, typically between 12:30 and 1:30 p.m. Since the program began in 1937, some 2.4 million banners have fluttered at the behest of citizens."

The article quotes the price of \$10.04 for a 3' x 5' flag.

Laura Gaccione



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## CALENDAR

Sundays, AA meetings, 9 a.m. in the Monterey Firehouse, Main Road.

Tuesdays, Aug. 5, 12, 19 Mother/baby exercise class, 11 a.m. no charge, 940 S. Main St. Great Barrington. Swimming lessons at York Lake, Sandisfield.

Tuesday, Aug. 12. Family Center Picnic at Benedict Pond, Beartown State Park, 11 a.m. Parking fee waived.

Tuesday, Aug. 19. Free blood pressure clinic, 9-10:30 a.m. in the basement room of the Monterey Grange (town offices), Main Road.

Wednesday, Aug. 13. MOPS group - Moms Offering Moms support Following Pregnancy, 115 West Ave. Great Barrington 4 p.m. 528-1470.

Wednesday, Aug. 20. Meeting of the Southern Berkshire Solid Waste District, 7 p.m. in the church basement.

Friday, August 8. "Chicken & Scratchin'" Tom and Anita of the Big Waach Scratch Band at the Roadside Store 5-8 p.m.

Friday, August 15. Surprise Hike at Gould Farm, Children's Health Program, 10 a.m.

Friday, August 22. "Ribs, Rhythm & Blues" with Vikki True and the Sweet Sisters of Mercy and Heidi Harris, 5-8 p.m., at the Roadside Store.

Saturday, Aug. 23. Square and contradance at the Sheffield Grange, Route 7, Sheffield, 8:30-11:30 p.m. Music by Mountain Laurel Band 528-9385

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY MONTEREY!!!!

## Friday evening, August 1st

- 5:30 pm: At the gazebo and pavilion
  - Community old fashion picnic, bring your own food, or buy food at the pavilion provided by Gould Farm
  - Continuous musical entertainment at the gazebo
  - Souvenirs and Monterey Book for sale

8:00 pm: In the pavilion

- Contra Dance, featuring Monterey's Mountain Laurel Band
  - Refreshments available

## Saturday, August 2

Town Center

9:00 am-2 pm: Historical Exhibit, Knox Trail Museum

- Photos, Maps, and other Monterey artifacts

9:00 am-4:00 pm: Souvenirs and Monterey Book on sale, Town Center

9:00 am: the Children's Fun Run, Town Center

9:30 am: the Knox Trail Run, Town Center

- Registration forms in General Store

10:00 am-4:00 pm: Monterey Arts Display, Tryon Tea Room

- Celebration Quilt on display
- Local Monterey Artists will display their work

10:30 am: Monterey Library, Children's Story Telling

- Featuring John Porcino

11:00 am-4:00 pm: Bidwell House, tours and clothing exhibit\*

- Clothing from 1830-1920's worn in Monterey

11:00 am-4:00 pm: Monterey Historical House tour

- Self-guided driving tour maps available at Bidwell House (No interior or garden touring)

11:00 am Lake Garfield Beach, Sand Castle Building Contest

- Judging at 1:00 pm, 10 teams, max. 4 per team
- Sign-up at the Beach

11:00 am Greene Park, 3 person Basketball Tournament

- Different age groups, prizes to winners
- Contact Jay Amidon 269-4430

1:00 pm: Nature walk along Konkapot River led by Robert Rausch

- Old mill sites along the River are included
- Meet at the Knox Trail Museum

1:00 pm: Afternoon Events at the gazebo

## Saturday Evening

7:00 pm: 150th Anniversary Ball\*\* (by reservation only)

- Firehouse
- Social hour begins (come early and greet friends)
- 8:00 dancing begins with the Shea Swing Band (catered food)

8:00 pm: Rock Dance in the pavilion with the DJ Don\*\*

- Refreshments available in pavilion

## Sunday Morning August 3rd

7:00-11:00 am: Community Pancake Breakfast\*\*

- at the Firehouse

9:00 am: Greene Park, Softball game, pick-up games

9:30 am: Souvenirs and Monterey Book on sale near Gazebo

10:00 am: Interfaith Service at the Church

- Keith Snow & Pamela Gilchrist
- Musicians; Vikki True, Hill 'n Dale Songsters, and Mari Makuc, organist

11:00 am-4:00 pm: Monterey Arts Display, Tryon Tea Room

11:00 am-1:00 pm: Historical Exhibit, Knox Trail Museum

11:00 am-4:00 pm: Bidwell House and Clothing Exhibit\*\*

- Self-guided house tour maps available at Bidwell House

12 noon & again 2:00 pm "Talking with Mercy" at Rock Ridge

- An original production, presented by the Bigger Light Theatre Company
- Based on the diaries of Mercy Partridge Whitney the granddaughter of Reverend Adonijah Bidwell who traveled with her husband as missionaries to Hawaii.
- Two performances each lasting over one hour

12 noon-2:00 pm: Children's games and contests pavilion: prizes and refreshments

12 noon-2:00 pm: Rollerblading at the pavilion

- Blades provided free

2:00 pm Lake Garfield Flotilla

- Starts at Kinne's Grove

2:00 pm-3:45 Skateboard and Rollerblade Demo the pavilion

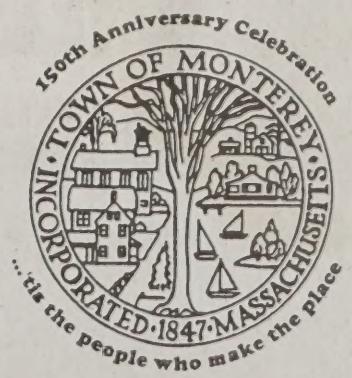
- Public participation with music

4:00 pm: Closing Ceremonies at the Gazebo

- A birthday party for our town

- Refreshments

- Time Capsule (TBA)



## BACK TO KANSAS

I'd like to think that I had some courage, heart and brains before I started my trip down the yellow brick road to the *Monterey News*. Whatever I had has increased tenfold, as the challenges of this job has stretched me in ways I couldn't have guessed.

Alas, the "OZ" of editing the *News* is a state of mind I can no longer afford. I'll be teaching full-time in the fall in Pittsfield, the metaphorical equivalent of Kansas.

I'm on my way with many new skills, wonderful experiences and terrific friendships. I will miss: kvetching with Jane Black, taking too many photographs, talking writing and art with contributors, the fun of watching the issue come together, and learning about Monterey.

I will not miss board meetings. But I want to thank the board for the privilege - and it is one - of editing a real, honest-to-goodness grassroots publication that has no ax to grind or party to promote or powers-that-be to bow down to. Keeping this publication afloat and steering it along are some wonderful people with a vision for what is important: community, honesty, fairness, simplicity.

This is a great town and it was a great time to be editor. Thanks to all.

For the past two months our fabulous photographer Maggie Leonard has been learning the ropes. I have no doubt that she will sail as the next editor of the *Monterey News*.

Laura Gaccione



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*Contributions from local artists this month: Bonner McAllester, p.14*

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